

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 19617 120703Z  
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 INSE-00 /029 W  
-----100940 120716Z /14

O 120654Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE  
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7478  
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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HONG KONG FOR LOWMAN

EO 11652 NA  
TAGS; SREF  
SUBJ RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES FOR CATEGORY III AND IV BOAT  
REFUGEES

1. SUMMARY: IN LIGHT OF THE LIMITED NUMBERS FOR BOAT REFUGEES,  
EMB BELIEVES THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO DEFINE CAT III FAIRLY TIGHTLY  
AND UNIFORMLY THROUGHOUT THE REGION. WE ALSO MAKE SOME SUGGESTIONS  
FOR SUBCLASSIFICATIONS OF CAT IV. END SUMMARY

2. FOLLOWING ARE SUGGESTED GROUND RULES FOR CAT III ELIGIBILITY FOR  
BOAT REFS. (NOTE: FOR SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS, A MINIMUM OF ONE YEAR  
SERVICE WOULD BE REQUIRED; FOR CLERICAL, NON-COMMISSIONED, AND OTHER  
LESS SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS FIVE YEARS SERVICE WOULD BE REQUIRED).

A. PERSONS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE US GOVT THROUGH EMPLOYMENT  
BY AMERICAN COMPANIES OR CONTRACTORS, FOUNDATIONS AND OTHER ORGAN-  
IZATIONS WORKING WITH THE US GOVT IN INDOCHINA.

B. PERSONS WHO HELD SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS IN THE CIVIL OR MILITARY  
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ORGANIZATIONS OF THE FORMER GOVT.

C. OTHERS WHO HAD LESS SIGNIFICANT CIVIL OR MILITARY POSITIONS BUT  
HAD  
EITHER SIGNIFICANT LENGTH OF SERVICE, EXPOSURE TO HAZARD OF OR SOME  
OTHER

SPECIAL ASPECT. IN CONSIDERING ELIGIBILITY, THE INTERVIEWING OFFICER SHOULD WEIGH HEAVILY ANY SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF TIME SPENT IN RE-EDUCATION.

D. ALMOST BY DEFINITION, ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN SINGLED OUT FOR EXTENSIVE RE EDUCATION (I.E. THREE MONTHS OR MORE) WOULD FALL UNDER CAT III AS SOMEONE CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE FORMER GOVT.

3. FOR EXAMPLES OF THOSE AT THE LOWER END OF THE SCALE WHOM WE WOULD CONSIDER TO STILL FALL UNDER OUR PROPOSED, TIGHTER DEFINITION OF CAT III WOULD BE:

- KEY VILLAGE OR HAMLET OFFICIALS (WITH AT LEAST FIVE YEARS EXPERIENCE)
- AN ORDINARY POLICEMAN (WITH AT LEAST FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE)
- A SERGAENT WHO SPENDS SIX MONTHS IN RE-EDUCATION.
- A MEMBER OF THE POPULAR FORCES WHO WAS EXPOSED TO COMBAT.

4. SOME EXAMPLES OF THOSE WHOM WE CONSIDER WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT FALL UNDER THE CAT III DEFINITION:

- POPULAR FORCES SOLDIER WITH LESS THAN FIVE YEARS EXPERIENCE AND WITH NO COMBAT DUTY.
  - PEOPLE'S SELF DEFENSE FORCE (PSDF) WITH NO OTHER SIGNIFICANT SERVICE.
  - LOW LEVEL OR CLERICAL CIVIL OR MILITARY EMPLOYEES WITH LESS THAN FIVE YEARS SERVICE.
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5. AS ALREADY STATED IN REFTTEL, WE WOULD INTEND TO GIVE FIRST PRIORITY TO CAT III CONFORMING TO THE TIGHTER DEFINITION SUGGESTED ABOVE. UNDER CAT IV, WE SUGGEST GIVING PRIORITY TO MARRIED SIBLINGS, CLOSE RELATIVES WHO ANCHOR ARRIVED IN THE US AFTER 14 JUNE 78, AND MORE DISTANT RELATIVES. IF NUMBERS PERMIT, WE WOULD THEN RECOMMEND CONSIDERING BOAT REFUGEES WHO UNDER PREVIOUS PROGRAMS WOULD HAVE BEEN LABELED CAT III BUT ARE NOW CAT IV (I.E. MARGINAL CAT III'S). THE FINAL SUB CATEGORY UNDER CAT IV WOULD BE ALL OTHER BOAT REFUGEES WHO HAVE NO OFFER OF RESETTLEMENT.

6. FOR LOWMAN: WE HOPE THESE THOUGHTS WILL BE OF SOME ASSISTANCE IN DRAWING UP UNIFORM GUIDELINES FOR PRESENTING CAT III AND IV BOAT REFUGEES. O'DONOHUE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, PROCEDURE, SEA RESCUES  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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